

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
10 March 2005 (10.03.2005)

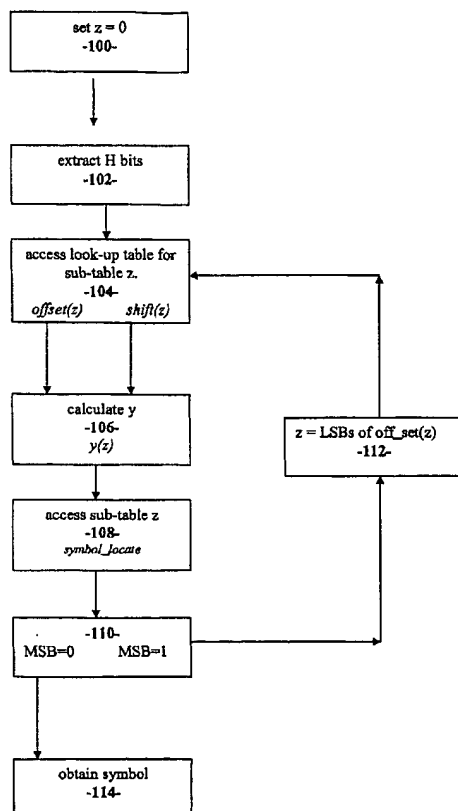
PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2005/022754 A1**

- (51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **H03M 7/42**, G06T 9/00 (74) Agent: HIGGIN, Paul; Swindell & Pearson, 48 Friar Gate, Derby DE1 1GY (GB).
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/IB2003/004310 (81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (22) International Filing Date: 2 September 2003 (02.09.2003)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
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- (84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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(54) Title: HUFFMAN CODING AND DECODING



(57) Abstract: A method of decoding a bitstream encoded according to a Huffman coding tree of height H comprising: extracting a first codeword of H bits from the bitstream; modifying the codeword by shifting it by a first shift value; using this modified codeword to identify using at least a first data structure either a symbol or a second data structure having an associated second offset value and an associated second shift value; and if a second data structure is identified using the first data structure: modifying the codeword by subtracting the second offset value and shifting the result by the second shift value; and using this modified codeword to identify using the second data structure either a symbol or a third data structure having an associated third offset value and an associated third shift value.



**Published:**

— with international search report

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